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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 12

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Letter dated 22 February 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

1. I have the honour to attach herewith the interview granted by Simon Stefani, Minister of the Interior of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania, to the editor of the newspaper Zeri i Popullit, published in its issue of 22 February 1990 and entitled "The Truth about Prisoners in Albania".

2. I would request you kindly to circulate this text as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights under item 12 of the agenda for its forty-sixth session.

(Signed) Alfred Papuçiu
Chargé d'affaires

Annex

THE TRUTH ABOUT PRISONERS IN ALBANIA

Interview granted by Simon Stefani, Minister of the Interior, to the editor of the newspaper Zeri i Popullit and published in its issue of 22 February 1990

Question: Some foreign press agencies periodically report, for malicious purposes, that there are thousands of detainees in the prisons in our country. They say that there are 20,000, 30,000 or even 40,000. What is the truth, Comrade Minister, with regard to this matter?

Answer: This is not the first time that certain circles have deliberately used their propaganda machinery to try to give a distorted picture of the situation in Albania. In this context, there are also the fabrications that there are large numbers of prisoners in our country. The facts are, however, quite different. At present, the Socialist People's Republic of Albania has a total of 3,850 prisoners who have been convicted of all types of ordinary and political crimes and who are serving their sentences in prisons and rehabilitation centres. Only 83 of these persons were found guilty of action to overthrow the people's power by violence. Contrary to the accusations often made against our country, no one has been sentenced for his religious activities or beliefs.

I would like to stress that there have been very few cases of death sentences for serious crimes, as provided for by criminal law. For example, during the period from 1980 to 1990, only four death penalties were handed down for political crimes, whereas, in the case of ordinary crimes which constitute a great threat to society, three or four persons were sentenced to death each year.

Question: Foreign propaganda also claims that there are thousands of members of the Greek minority in prison in Albania. Can you tell us, Comrade Minister, how many members of the Greek minority are now serving prison sentences?

Answer: I must first stress that, on tthis point as well, anti-Albanian propaganda has let its imagination run wild. In our country, minorities enjoy all the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution. They are full citizens before the law like all Albanian citizens and are not discriminated against in any way. To answer your question: at present, 35 members of the minority are serving prison terms, none for serious political offences.

Question: One of the many slanderous statements concerns the ill-treatment to which prisoners are subjected in the places where they are serving their sentences. Can you tell us something about this?

Answer: A prison sentence in Albania is markedly educational in nature. It is profoundly humane. Accordingly, the law clearly enunciates the rules and regulations which give prisoners genuine opportunities to become

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rehabilitated as useful members of society. While they are serving their sentences, moreover, prisoners are given permission to go home in case of family problems and their sentences are reduced when they do very well in carrying out the tasks assigned to them. By decision of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, prisoners who work and behave well are released before they have served their full sentences. In addition, amnesties are occasionally granted.

As a result of the healthy political situation and economic stability in our country, delinquency has been constantly declining.

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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Letter dated 26 February 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached documents, which have been received from the Ministry of the Interior and Justice of Panama with instructions to forward them to the Commission.

These documents confirm the participation of President Fidel Castro of Cuba in the violation of the human rights of the Panamanian people and even his own people. They draw attention to military and logistical support extended to the State terrorism conducted by the Noriega régime, and to the inhuman dealings in visas for Cuban citizens wishing to emigrate to the United States of America.

I would kindly request you to have these documents circulated as official documents under agenda item 12.

(Signed) Osvaldo Velásquez
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND JUSTICE

Military and logistical support given by President Fidel Castro of Cuba to General Noriega of Panama

February, 1990

Weapons

From 1987 onwards, the Noriega régime became increasingly dependent on Cuba for munitions and military training. Large weapons shipments took place on board both Cuban and Panamanian aircraft. In 1989, Cuban weapons shipments were also channelled through Nicaragua. Panamanian crews have provided numerous reports of these arms shipments from Cuba.

In 1988, Castro agreed to provide Noriega with weapons and ammunition to enable him to arm both the governmental paramilitary groups and the Defence Forces. The first shipment on board the FAP 777 aircraft, which arrived in the province of Chiriquí, was received by Lt. Col. Luis del Cid, of the now-defunct Defence Forces. The following shipment, also intended for Chiriquí, was diverted to Tocumen international airport due to mechanical problems.

Investigations by this Ministry have confirmed that the following weapons were received from Cuba:

2,000 AK47 rifles, mostly of Chinese or North Korean manufacture;

50 82mm mortars;

200 RPG7 rocket-launchers, made in the Soviet Union;

200 RPG2 rocket-launchers, made in China;

70 mm guns, type and quantity unknown;

5,000 anti-personnel mines;

5,000 anti-tank mines;

300 light machine-guns;

100 heavy machine-guns;

10,000 hand grenades.

Large quantities of ammunition were also supplied. Sixteen trips in two Panamanian Air Force 727-700 aircraft were necessary to transport the weapons from Cuba.

Training of the "Dignity Battalions" (paramilitary groups)

In early September 1988, 25 to 30 members of a number of Panamanian "Dignity Battalion" units travelled to Cuba to receive training in terrorist tactics. The group returned from Cuba to Tocumen international airport on 2 December 1989 on board a Cuban Airlines flight. The training received in Cuba included physical conditioning, basic military skills, small-unit tactics and large amounts of propaganda.

Liaison with officers of the Defence Forces

Officers of the Defence Forces travelled frequently to Cuba to deal with matters relating to the Defence Forces and the Panamanian State. For example, Major Francisco Porras, Director of the Defence Forces Military Training Institute in Río Hato, returned from Cuba on 15 July 1989 with equipment sent by the Cuban Government to Noriega.

Political counselling

As an example of the Cuban Government's interference in internal Panamanian affairs, in early June 1989, during an official visit to Cuba by Minister and Acting President Mr. Manuel Solís Palma, Castro met a group of Defence Forces officers who had accompanied Solís Palma to Cuba and they spoke about the nature and use of the Panamanian "Dignity Battalions". Castro had realized that the "Dignity Battalions" had projected a negative image during the 10 May attack against the opposition candidates, and recommended a programme to counteract their bad reputation within the country.

Assistance with regard to propaganda and the media

On 17 April 1989, Mr. Luis Baez, a journalist in the service of the Cuban Government, and three communications teachers from the University of Havana arrived in Panama City for the purpose of counselling in news coverage and matters relevant to relations between Panama and the United States.

Mr. Baez had been instructed to advise Major Edgardo López, a public relations officer of the Defence Forces, on how to conduct himself during press conferences relating to the 7 May elections. The teachers' job was to advise the media controlled by the Panamanian Government (radio, television and press) on the broadcasting and handling of press releases. Three other Cuban journalists and the Central American correspondent of Prensa Latina arrived in Panama on 28 April to help Mr. Baez carry out this project.

ANNEX 2

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND JUSTICE

Department of Migration

Panama, February 1990

ENTRIES AND DEPARTURES OF CUBAN CITIZENS VIA TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Year	Entries	Departures
1985	8 131	6 941
1986	10 308	7 183
1987	5 980	6 773
1988	6 337	3 867
1989	11 931	3 779
TOTAL	42 687	28 543

Difference: 14 144

(According to estimates by this Department, at an estimated cost of $US 5,000 to $US 10,000 per visa, this traffic has unlawfully yielded approximately $US 85 million for its beneficiaries).

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 19

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF
DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

Letter dated 23 February from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

I have the honour to enclose herein the text of the letter of the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Mr. Budimir Loncar, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. J. Pérez de Cuéllar, in which he requested that it be distributed as a United Nations document.

I would be grateful if the said letter, by Mr. Loncar, could be distributed as a document of the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session.

(Signed): Zivojin Jazic
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

GE.90-10994/5464A

ANNEX

1. The telegram dated 2 February 1990 addressed to you by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Mr. Reis Malile, was circulated as a document of the United Nations. I noted with regret that the telegram contains gross disinformation and groundless attacks on the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in an attempt to mislead the United Nations and you personally. I feel, therefore, all the more obliged to contribute to an objective understanding of this complex and sensitive problem.

2. As you are undoubtedly aware, a part of my country - the Socialist Autonomous Province (SAP) of Kosovo - where the Albanian nationality constitutes the majority of the population, has a wide autonomy, guaranteed by the Constitution and realized in practice. The Albanian nationality, which is a national minority in Yugoslavia, enjoys the same rights as all other Yugoslav nations and national minorities. The Albanian language is used in the SAP of Kosovo, on the basis of full equality, in education, including at the University, in public administration and judicial system, in the press, on the radio and television, as well as in other scientific and cultural institutions of the Province. Representatives of the Albanian nationality are equitably represented not only in the governmental organs of the SAP of Kosovo and the Socialist Republic of Serbia, of which the Province is a part under the Constitution, but also in all federal bodies, such as the Assembly of the SFR of Yugoslavia, the Presidency of the SFR of Yugoslavia and the federal Government. Persons of Albanian nationality have held so far the positions of Head of State and President of the Federal Assembly. They have headed diplomatic missions, held high positions in the army and the security services. Similar examples in the practice of other countries are not very frequent.

3. Throughout the post-war period, Yugoslavia has, until now, devoted special attention to the acceleration of economic, social and cultural development of the SAP of Kosovo, allocating huge resources for this purpose. Despite the progress achieved, Kosovo is still the least developed part of Yugoslavia, with low productivity and by far the highest birth rate in Europe, as well as other problems stemming primarily from the legacy of the past.

4. Unfortunately, Kosovo is also the scene of activities of extreme nationalistic and separatist forces from the ranks of Albanian nationality which are inspired and instigated from abroad, with the ultimate goal of secession of Kosovo from the SR of Serbia and the SFR of Yugoslavia. This, as you will no doubt agree, poses a threat to my country's territorial integrity and constitutional order. These forces resort to violence, use of arms and acts of destruction, with elements of terrorism, thus endangering the rights and freedoms of citizens and the normal functioning of democratic institutions of the system. In an attempt to create an ethnically pure Kosovo, they have for years exerted and intensified pressure on Serbs, Montenegrins and other nations, who are being forced to leave Kosovo in large numbers. In the atmosphere of pressure and fear, thousands and thousands of these citizens have left Kosovo, and this process, in spite of all the measures taken, has

not been stopped. For all these reasons, the situation in Kosovo is on the brink of an inter-ethnic armed conflict that would certainly cause many casualties.

5. Precisely such a situation has developed recently. In such circumstances, the responsibility of the Yugoslav State to use the necessary means to ensure peace and security for all citizens in that part of Yugoslavia, as would any other State based on the rule of law, is clear. Understandably, we deeply regret the victims. However, the continuation and escalation of unrest had to be prevented, for it would have caused far more serious consequences.

6. The peace and tranquility of all citizens of Kosovo, regardless of their nationality or religion, are a natural precondition for the normal functioning of democratic institutions and the enjoyment of human rights, as well as for unhampered economic and other activities. Moreover, law and order in Kosovo are also an essential precondition for the realization of our main objective at this moment - the implementation of the Yugoslav programme of profound economic and political reforms and full democratization of society, therefore in Kosovo as well.

7. I consider that a stable and prosperous Yugoslavia, with political freedoms and human rights whose further promotion is based on the results already achieved, is not only in Yugoslavia's interest, but in the broader interest as well. We are making great efforts to ensure an unimpeded course of these positive democratic processes in my country, as part of deep transformations in Europe and in the world. It is natural that we should expect understanding and support in that regard, before all others, from neighbouring countries.

8. The position of the most responsible representatives of the PSR of Albania, which objectively encourages those that create the destabilization in Kosovo, is, to say the least, all the more surprising, since the undermining of the stability in the region is certainly not in the national interest of that country either. We have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Government of the PSR of Albania to that fact.

9. I would not wish to compare, on this occasion, human rights and freedoms in Kosovo, that is the rights and freedoms enjoyed by Albanians in Yugoslavia, with the situation in Albania in that respect, or the status of the Albanian nationality in Yugoslavia with that of the Macedonian, Montenegrin, Serbian and other national minorities in Albania. Similarly, I do not wish to pose the question of whether it is moral to encourage unrest among Albanians in Yugoslavia and thus jeopardize their lives as well.

10. Finally, let me stress that the policy of developing good-neighbourly relations remains a lasting aim of the SFR of Yugoslavia. We will strive in that spirit to promote relations and co-operation with all neighbouring countries, including the PSR of Albania, on the basis of the same principles and with the same objectives. Along these lines, Yugoslavia will continue to

contribute to the advancement of regional co-operation, confidence and understanding in the Balkans, thus contributing to the further improvement of relations in Europe.

11. Of course, Yugoslavia's efforts alone are not sufficient. Confidence and co-operation require good will and efforts of both sides. This, too, has been pointed out to the Government of the PSR of Albania on many occasions. In this connection, we would like to believe that this letter would also help inspire the kind of wisdom and responsibility which are indispensable in relations between neighbours.

(Signed): Budimir Loncar

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Agenda item 10 (a)

QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO ANY FORM OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT, AND IN PARTICULAR:

(a) TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Note verbale dated 12 February 1990 from the Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Centre for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of Nicaragua to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Centre for Human Rights and requests it to circulate the following communication under item 10 (a) of the agenda of the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session:

"We should like to refer to the report entitled 'Question of the human rights of all persons subjected to any form of detention or imprisonment, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment' (E/CN.4/1990/17), submitted by the Special Rapporteur, Mr. P. Kooijmans, pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/33. In the English version of the document, page 35 contains information about persons detained or imprisoned in my country who have allegedly suffered from ill-treatment or torture.

In this connection, the information is completely false, as has been ascertained by the competent prison authorities and in talks held by members of the National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and of the Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America (CODEHUCA), which has its headquarters in San José, Costa Rica, with each of the persons mentioned in the communication of 24 May 1989 mentioned by the Special Rapporteur in the report; one exception is Mr. José Luis Gramendia Toruno, who has never been arrested.

Mr. Erick David Canales, Mr. Michael Chael Busin Yusle, Mr. Roberto Waldan Reyes, Mr. Francisco Nataren García, Mr. José Ignacio Alvarenga López and Mr. Gregorio Méndez were pardoned by the Government of Nicaragua and released on 9 February 1990.

Mr. Erick Jorge David Canales had been captured after a battle in Esteli on 5 August 1987 and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. He was suffering from headaches caused by shrapnel in the head after a grenade exploded. He was hospitalized for 15 days, but he could not be operated on because he might have lost his life. He was given suitable treatment in prison. He spoke with Senator Enrique Bernales Ballesteros (Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries) when he visited Nicaragua in December 1988 (see document E/CN.4/1989/14, p. 28).

According to his own words, Mr. Michael Chael Busin Yusde, from Puerto Lempira, Honduras, took part in a number of battles with the counter-revolutionary forces, which he had joined in 1983, until he was captured in 1987. In one battle, he killed a number of wounded Sandinista soldiers and threw their bodies into the Prinzopolka River. He had been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

Roberto Waldan Reyes, from Waspan, Río Coco, Nicaragua, had been held since 17 August 1985. He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment for taking part in plans to kidnap the Nicaraguan Minister of Defence. He suffered from head and back injuries as a result of a road accident which took place before he was captured. He received suitable treatment in prison.

Francisco Nataren García was arrested after a battle in which he was wounded in the left hand and the left foot and he lost his left eye after a hand grenade blew up in Las Tejas, Matagalpa. When he was captured, he said he was from El Viejo, Department of Chinandega, Nicaragua. He had taken part in the attack in San José de las Mulas, where the counter-revolutionaries killed 17 young people. He was sentenced to 28 years' imprisonment. When he was captured he was taken to a hospital, because of injuries received in battle, and was later sent to the Penitentiary Centre.

José Ignacio Alvarenga López, arrested in 1979, was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment for his direct part in killing a number of persons. He is the son of a Honduran father and a Nicaraguan mother, but he says that he is Nicaraguan.

Gregorio Méndez Pérez was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment for killing Mr. Juri Ordóñez and for torturing other people, when he was a member of the National Guard in the Somoza era.

The National Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights checked on the health of these persons when they were still in custody, and the International Committee of the Red Cross constantly visited these penitentiary centres and gave special assistance to prisoners of this kind."

Geneva, 12 February 1990

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Agenda item 11

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Note verbale dated 1 March 1990 from the Permanent Representatives of Austria, Hungary, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia to the United Nations at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General

The Permanent Representatives of Austria, Hungary, the Netherlands and Yugoslavia present their compliments to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights and wish to draw his attention to the final document of the Vienna meeting of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, in January 1989, in particular the part which relates to its human dimension.

The above-mentioned Permanent Representatives consider this document of importance to the Commission on Human Rights in the framework of its ongoing search for alternative approaches with a view to enhance the implementation of human rights obligations. The Commission may be interested to receive information about the outcome of negotiations between 35 States, the results of which have already been implemented. It is for this reason that the Permanent Representatives submit the enclosed text with the request to have this note and its annex distributed as an official document of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

HUMAN DIMENSION OF THE CSCE

The participating States,

Recalling the undertakings entered into in the Final Act and in other CSCE documents concerning respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, human contacts and other issues of a related humanitarian character,

Recognizing the need to improve the implementation of their CSCE commitments and their co-operation in these areas which are hereafter referred to as the human dimension of the CSCE,

Have, on the basis of the principles and provisions of the Final Act and of other relevant CSCE documents, decided:

1. to exchange information and respond to requests for information and to representations made to them by other participating States on questions relating to the human dimension of the CSCE. Such communications may be forwarded through diplomatic channels or be addressed to any agency designated for these purposes;
2. to hold bilateral meetings with other participating States that so request, in order to examine questions relating to the human dimension of the CSCE, including situations and specific cases, with a view to resolving them. The date and place of such meetings will be arranged by mutual agreement through diplomatic channels;
3. that any participating State which deems it necessary may bring situations and cases in the human dimension of the CSCE, including those which have been raised at the bilateral meetings described in paragraph 2, to the attention of other participating States through diplomatic channels;
4. that any participating State which deems it necessary may provide information on the exchanges of information and the responses to its requests for information and to representations (paragraph 1) and on the results of the bilateral meetings (paragraph 2), including information concerning situations and specific cases, at the meetings of the Conference on the Human Dimension as well as at the main CSCE Follow-up Meetings.

The participating States decide further to convene a Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE in order to achieve further progress concerning respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, human contacts and other issues of a related humanitarian character. The Conference will hold three meetings before the next CSCE Follow-up Meeting.

The Conference will:

— review developments in the human dimension of the CSCE including the implementation of the relevant CSCE commitments;
— evaluate the functioning of the procedures described in paragraphs 1 to 4 and discuss the information provided according to paragraph 4;
— consider practical proposals for new measures aimed at improving the implementation of the commitments relating to the human dimension of the CSCE and enhancing the effectiveness of the procedures described in paragraphs 1 to 4.

On the basis of these proposals, the Conference will consider adopting new measures.

The first Meeting of the Conference will be held in Paris from 30 May to 23 June 1989.

The second Meeting of the Conference will be held in Copenhagen from 5 to 29 June 1990.

The third Meeting of the Conference will be held in Moscow from 10 September to 4 October 1991.

The agenda, timetable and other organizational modalities are set out in Annex X.

The next main CSCE Follow-up Meeting, to be held in Helsinki, commencing on 24 March 1992, will assess the functioning of the procedures set out in paragraphs 1 to 4 above and the progress made at the Meetings of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE. It will consider ways of further strengthening and improving these procedures and will take appropriate decisions.

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-sixth session
Agenda items 10, 11, 12, 14 and 19

QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO ANY FORM OF DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES ON ITS FORTY-FIRST SESSION

Letter dated 1 March 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

1. With reference to the statement about my country made in the Commission on Human Rights on 27 February 1990 by the head of the delegation of the SFR of Yugoslavia, I wish to inform you that I firmly reject the malicious and unfounded accusations contained in that statement.

2. Whereas the representative of Yugoslavia was expected to respond to the concern of international public opinion about the long-standing state of emergency in Kosovo and the tragedy being experienced there by the Albanian population as a result of the police brutality and State terror practised against them, and also to explain when the situation would be brought to an

end, he chose to make unfounded and absurd accusations against Albania. This departure from the truth by the Yugoslav representative pursues premeditated aims, namely to divert the attention of the Commission and the public at large and to hide the truth about the tragedy being experienced by the Albanian population in Yugoslavia.

3. The events in Kosovo are known to the world. In recent weeks alone, dozens of Albanians have been killed and hundreds wounded, including women and children, and thousands have been imprisoned. Many Governments, institutions and important international bodies such as the European Parliament and the Commission on Human Rights have expressed their concern about the violence in Kosovo.

4. Albania has not interfered and does not interfere in Yugoslavia's internal affairs. It is in favour of good neighbourly relations between the two countries. The Kosovo problems can be settled, not artificially by handing over responsibilities to others, but by using political wisdom, by relinquishing violence and terror, by engaging in dialogue with the Albanians in Kosovo and by respecting their rights to full equality and justice.

5. The rights and fundamental freedoms of Albanian citizens are sanctioned in the laws of the SPR of Albania and are fully observed in practice. In order to clear up this matter, the Permanent Mission of the SPR of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva has, in extending its co-operation, submitted documents and replies to the Commission on Human Rights. They are included among the Commission's official documents for the forty-sixth session, namely, E/CN.4/1990/57; E/CN.4/1990/71; E/CN.4/1990/74; E/CN.4/1990/78 and E/CN.4/1990/80.

6. I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights, under items 10, 11, 12, 14 and 19 of the agenda for the forty-sixth session.

(Signed): Alfred Papuçiu
Chargé d'affaires